

Most beaches are private, please be respectful towards these properties and the rights of private property owners who have generously allowed public access.

Beach Driving Permitted only as shown on this map

- Beach Driving Signs:** Please note the posted signs delineating the driving areas.



**Great Point & Coatue
Wildlife Refuges**
Vehicle access by separate
permit issued at Wauwinet
Gate House **only**.
*Access not controlled by
the Town of Nantucket.*



Produced by BMAC

PLEASE RESPECT OUR FRAGILE ENVIRONMENT.

Nantucket Beach Map 2005

Rules & Regulations

Town of Nantucket
16 Broad Street
Nantucket, MA 02554
Ph: (508) 228-7255



Rules and Regulations

Driving on the beach is a privilege, not a right.

Please carefully read these regulations governing the use of a motor vehicle on Nantucket beaches. All drivers of motor vehicles issued a beach permit are responsible for understanding and abiding by these rules. **Failure to comply with any of these regulations may result in immediate revocation of the permit sticker and imposition of a fine up to \$300.00.**

- 1 Vehicles may access designated beach driving areas **ONLY** and must have a valid town issued beach permit sticker on the vehicle. The permit is **only** valid for the vehicle bearing the license plate number indicated on the permit sticker and is not transferable to another person or vehicle. This brochure must be in the vehicle when on the beach.
- 2 All vehicles must be four-wheel drive, properly registered, and operated by a licensed driver.
- 3 Access the beach at designated points of entry **ONLY**. Over the past few years many unauthorized vehicle pathways have been created over the dunes. These paths are increasing in number each year, damaging Nantucket's Barrier Dune system. The map on the reverse side shows the authorized access points clearly, and they are marked at the beach with clear signage. **Vehicles must enter the beach only at these marked access points.** Your compliance in using only these designated access points is of crucial importance in assuring that damaged dunes rebuild as well as in protecting the privilege of continued vehicle access to the beach.
- 4 **DO NOT DRIVE ON DUNES, BEACH GRASS, TIDAL FLATS, MARSHES, OR IN DESIGNATED BIRD NESTING AREAS.** Destruction of the dunes leads to erosion of the entire beach. Beach dunes offer the first line of defense against wave action. If dunes are destroyed or breached, then what lies behind them becomes vulnerable to the elements.
- 5 Pedestrians have the right-of-way. Please be courteous to people sitting or walking on the beach.
- 6 Do not exceed 20 MPH at any time and 5 MPH within 100 yards of a pedestrian. Vehicles with the water at their right always have the right of way.
- 7 Each vehicle shall be equipped with a shovel, jack and jack board, spare tire, and a tire pressure gauge. Other recommended equipment: tow rope, porta-potty, fire extinguisher, and cell phone. Before going onto the beach, all drivers must air down vehicle tires to 12 to 15 p.s.i. Driving is easier and chances of getting stuck in the sand are reduced. Stay in established tracks. Invasive tread is prohibited. Only standard road tire tread is allowed. Full size spare is mandatory.
- 8 Ruts or holes caused by digging out stuck vehicles must be filled in and all debris removed. The same applies to holes dug by beachgoers.
- 9 Vehicles must not drive or park on or in dunes or anywhere they might interfere with the flow of traffic. Observe color-coded boundary markers at dune line.
- 10 Fires on any beach are prohibited without a permit. Permits and the rules and regulations pertaining to fires on the beach can be obtained at the Nantucket Fire Department. **There shall be no bonfires or wood fires of any type anywhere on the island.** Permits are for charcoal grills or gas grills only.
- 11 Gatherings of 15 or more unrelated persons, any commercial activity on any beach or nighttime activity requires a permit that can be obtained from the Board of Selectmen's Office.
- 12 Dogs are not permitted on beaches where lifeguards are present. Dogs must be leashed on all beaches at all times. Owners are responsible for cleaning up after their pets.
- 13 Permits expire on December 31st regardless of date issued.
- 14 Beach access may be limited due to shore line erosion, bird nesting, private posting, overcrowding, and seasonal conditions. Kites are prohibited near nesting areas and in the immediate vicinity of the airport.
- 15 **CARRY OUT WHAT YOU CARRY IN-DON'T LEAVE TRASH ON THE BEACH.** Please take trash bags with you to the beach.
- 16 Only public beaches at Surfside, Jetties, Dionis, and Children's Beach have sanitary facilities. Please take this into account when planning your outing. We recommend the use of a porta-potty. The use of the beach or the dunes as a toilet will not be tolerated.
- 17 Do not drive or park on life-guarded beaches between the hours of 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- 18 Beaches are closed to vehicles except for active fishing between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.
- 19 MOST beaches on Nantucket are privately owned. Although most owners have been very generous in allowing the public to use their beaches, your cooperation and respect for private property rights is crucial in keeping all of Nantucket's beaches open to the public.

Environmental Statement

Nantucket's beaches are a treasure for residents and visitors alike to enjoy. Beach vehicle drivers must help ensure that Nantucket's fragile ecosystem remains healthy and strong by following the rules and regulations in this brochure. Your cooperation in protecting this resource is required for continued vehicle access.

This brochure must be in the vehicle when on the beach and permit must be visibly posted.

Beach Driving Don'ts



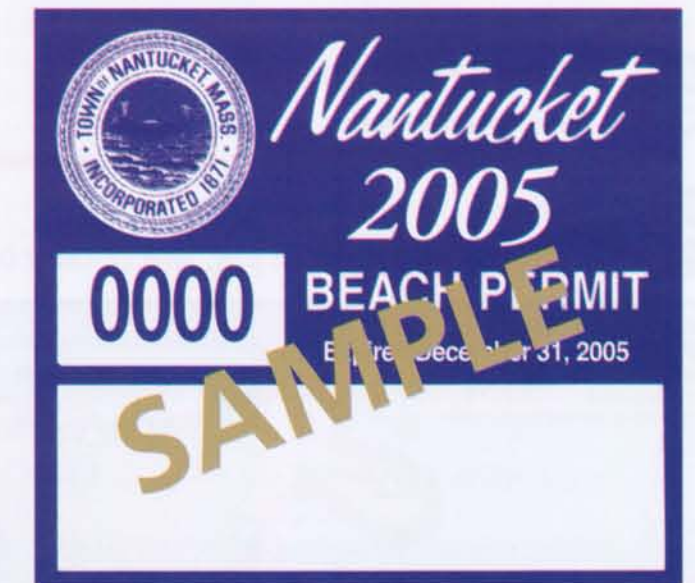
Don't drive on the dunes or beach grass.



Don't create new tracks.



Don't make new access points.



Fee Schedule

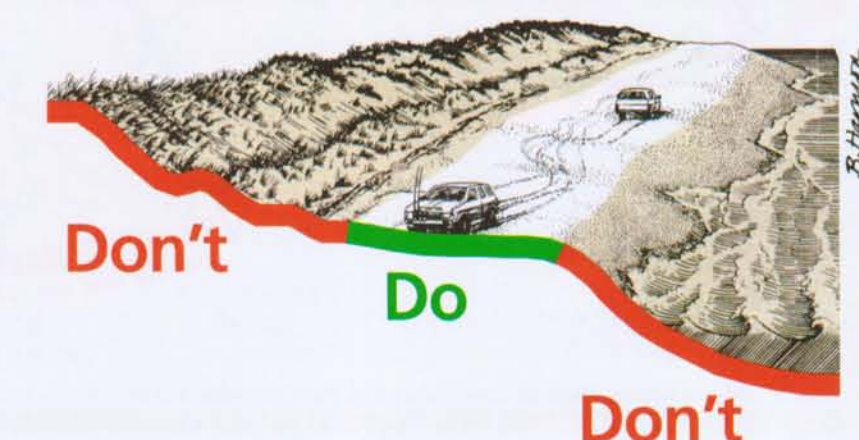
Vehicles Registered On-island \$50.00 (between Jan. 1-May 31)
After May 31, ALL permits are \$100 regardless of residency/registration

Vehicles Registered Off-Island \$100.00

Important Phone Numbers

Nantucket Police & Fire Department (emergency) 911
Nantucket Police Department (non emergency) (508) 228-1212
Nantucket Fire Department (non emergency) (508) 228-2324
Nantucket Marine Department (508) 228-7261
Beach Manager (508) 325-5348
Nantucket Parks & Recreation (508) 228-7213
Beach Information Line (508) 228-7260
Coast Guard (508) 228-0388
Environmental Police (508) 257-6932
Marine Mammal Stranding Team (via Police) (508) 228-1212

Where to Drive on the Beach



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